GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:141
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2016
Development of Salt Industry
Sreeramulu Shri B.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the current salt policy;

(b) whether the Government proposes to formulate a new policy for development of the Salt Industry and if so, the details thereof along with its salient features;

(c) the details of welfare fund/financial assistance provided to salt workers and their families during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the steps being taken for the welfare of salt workers?

Answer

???????? ??? ?????? ???????????? (????????? ??????)(??????? ??????? ???????)
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a): The Salt Commissioner Organization under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion) is entrusted with the following functions for overall development of salt industry:

(i) Management of Departmental salt lands including leasing of land for salt manufacture;
(ii) Monitoring production, distribution, quality and prices of salt;
(iii) Nodal Agency for monitoring production, distribution and quality control of iodized salt;
(iv) Promotion of technological development and training of personnel;
(v) Planning and execution of development and labour welfare schemes for salt workers;
(vi) Promotion of exports and pre-shipment inspection of salt;
(vii) Collection of Assignment Fee, Ground Rent; and
(viii) Rehabilitation of Salt Works affected by natural calamities

(b): The Government does not propose to formulate a new policy for development of the salt industry.

(c): The details of welfare fund/financial assistance provided to salt manufacturers and their families during the last three years and current year are as under:
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Sr. No. Financial Year Development of Salt Industry Labour Welfare
Amount (Rs lakh)
1. 2013-14 33.92 58.46
2. 2014-15 1.52 60.81
3. 2015-16 9.49 25.80
4. 2016-17 (up to May,2016) Nil Nil
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(d): The Government has approved code of principles for execution of labour welfare and development schemes. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry through Salt Commissioner Organization is supplementing efforts of the State Governments in conducting numerous activities for welfare of salt workers. These include construction of labour rest sheds, organizing general medical health cum eye camps, supplementing facilities in the hospitals for the benefit of salt workers like providing ambulance, capacity building for transporting and storage of potable water, laying pipelines for supply of drinking water, etc., and also schemes of improving brine supply, construction of roads, culverts, Bridges, protective bunds, improvement of infrastructure and mechanization of transport and harvesting of salt including R&D activities for improving the quality of salt. The Government is also imparting training to salt workers for improving their skill and granting rewards to the meritorious children of the salt workers.

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